



PSC NEWS

Missouri Public Service Commission

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PSC SETS HEARING SCHEDULE IN LACLEDE GAS COMPANY INFRASTRUCTURE SURCHARGE REQUEST CASE

Jefferson City (April 20, 2004)---The Missouri Public Service Commission will hold hearings in late May in a case filed by Laclede Gas Company which is seeking to place an infrastructure system replacement surcharge (ISRS) on the natural gas bills of its customers.

Hearings are scheduled to begin on May 27, 2004, in the Commission's offices located in the Governor Office Building, 200 Madison Street, in Jefferson City. Hearings will continue through May 28, 2004. These hearings will be held in a building that meets accessibility standards required by the Americans With Disabilities Act. If you need additional accommodations to participate in these hearings, please call the Public Service Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or Relay Missouri at 711 before the hearings.

Under legislation enacted in 2003 (HB 208), natural gas companies under PSC jurisdiction can petition the Commission to establish an infrastructure system replacement surcharge. This surcharge would allow Laclede Gas Company to recover costs for infrastructure system replacements and relocations that are eligible for ISRS recognition under state law. Under the law, the Commission must act on a request for an ISRS within 120 days of the Company's filing. When a filing is made, the Commission must determine if the request for the surcharge complies with the law. If the request complies with the law, the surcharge is allowed to take effect. The Commission must issue an order regarding Laclede's application effective no later than June 29, 2004.

According to the application, Laclede is proposing an infrastructure system replacement surcharge of 48 cents a month for its residential customers.

As part of its filing, Laclede states that it intends to provide a bill insert or bill message notifying customers of the ISRS charge with the initial bills containing the ISRS. Thereafter, Laclede intends to provide customers with informational bill inserts once a year in which Laclede will explain the ISRS and what it is designed to recover.

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